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NEW MASONIC BUILDING.

Those who travel east on First South street during the next few months will see on a prominent corner a new building in course of construction. Beautiful in architecture, solid and substantial, this building is designed to stand for all time as a monument to Masons and Masonry in Utah. Here the lodges will make their home, here the searcher for Masonic light will find it, even as the children of Israel found a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night to guide them on their journey through the wilderness.

Square men are the members of the Masonic fraternity, true brothers all of them. Of their own free will and accord they go about doing good. And if ever a body of men worked for good on the principle that the right hand has no business knowing what the left hand is doing, that body is the Masonic fraternity. The Masons don't figure in the newspapers very often. They do not sound a trumpet blast to call attention to the fact that they have just relieved a case of distress.

Quietly, without ostentation, without hope of recompense other than the approval of their consciences and the knowledge that the Father which seeth in secret shall reward them openly, they go about doing good. It is not possible to be a good Mason without at the same time being a good citizen. No man can obey the precepts and teachings of the fraternity without being a better man. The oldest of all secret societies, it is the rock upon which those of later days are founded. And in the hundreds of generations that have come and lived and died and been forgotten since Masonry was born, there has been no improvement on it by any other society.

We congratulate the Masons on the prosperity they evidence in beginning the construction of a new and permanent home. We know of no organization better deserving of prosperity, none more truly prepared, none so worthy and well qualified to carry on the campaign for making the world better, the people happier.

THE STATE FAIR.

Just two weeks from tomorrow the state fair of 1905 will be thrown open to the public. The Herald has often said before, and it repeats now, that this institution is entitled to and should receive the hearty support and patronage of all good citizens. It is in no sense a private corporation, operated for private gain. On the contrary, it is supported in large measure by legislative appropriations and the sole purpose of its being is to encourage the agricultural, horticultural, mining, manufacturing and other industries of the state.

The directors of the Deseret Agricultural & Manufacturing society, the organization having charge of the fair, receive no salaries. Yet they do not hesitate to leave their private business, though this involves great sacrifice, to give their time and their ability to the work. It should not be necessary for us to call attention to the fact that these gentlemen should be encouraged. The support and approval of their fellow citizens is the only reward they ask.

It must not be understood that any self-sacrifice is involved in a visit from the average citizen to the fair. For the small admission fee he is required to pay he gets full, pressed down and running over measure of enjoyment. The price of a fair ticket is by no means a donation to the Deseret Agricultural & Manufacturing society or to the state. In view of the heavy expenses that must be met this year the directors will count themselves fortunate if they are not called upon to go down into their own pockets to meet an overdraft.

But they have enough faith in the people of the state to feel reasonably sure that the receipts will come up to the expenses. They believe that the value of the fair is generally recognized. In no other way is it possible to stimulate the friendly rivalry that should prevail between those engaged in the state's varied industries. It is rivalry that produces great things, that teaches the farmer, the stockraiser, the horticulturist the mistakes he makes and how to correct them. It spurs him on to outrun his neighbor if he can. This is true of manufactures, of poultry raising, of everything else that will be exhibited in competition at the fair.

There will be plenty of amusement as well as education within the fair grounds this year, and the visitor that cannot find something to interest him every hour of every day during the six days will indeed be hard to please.

INSURANCE AND POLITICS.

Democrats who hold policies in the New York Life Insurance company were deeply interested in the testimony of George W. Perkins, first vice president of the company, to the effect that they had indirectly contributed to the Republican campaign fund in 1896, 1900 and 1904. The amount paid over to the Republican national committee was about \$48,000 in each instance. Thus money supplied, in part at least, by Democrats, was used to bring about the defeat of the Democratic nominee for

the highest office in the gift of the people. In explanation of his remarkable action, Mr. Perkins said on the stand, referring to a contribution of \$48,702 in 1904: "This payment was made after very careful deliberations. It must not be considered an ordinary contribution to the campaign fund. It was paid because we felt that the assets of the New York Life Insurance company would be jeopardized by a Democratic success."

We agree with Mr. Perkins that this "must not be considered an ordinary contribution to the campaign fund." It is a most extraordinary contribution. Indeed, we cannot consider it otherwise than as a distinctly criminal contribution. Mr. Perkins had no more right to give the money of the New York Life policy-holders to a campaign committee than he had to give it to himself. It was not his own money that he gave away, and if there is any justice in New York law he will be indicted on his own confession for misappropriating a trust fund.

The fact that he gave it to the Republican committee is entirely irrelevant and immaterial. His offense would have been just as grave if he had given it to the Democratic, the Populist or the Socialist committee. The cold truth is that he had no right to give it to any committee whatever, and the very least thing he and his associates can do is to return the money, with interest, to the treasury of the New York Life Insurance company.

A more unwarranted, high-handed proceeding was never engaged in by a supposedly reputable fiduciary agent. The assets of the company were contributed alike by Republicans and Democrats, Populists and Socialists. It was not for Mr. Perkins to say that those assets would be "jeopardized" by the success of any party. The policy-holders were not asked for an expression of their views. Their money was taken from them without any warrant whatever. And Mr. Perkins should be required to make it good.

ENGLAND'S OPEN SUNDAY.

In an article in the Nineteenth Century and After, Lord Avebury discusses Sunday closing in England. Shops of every character are kept open on Sunday in England, the tradespeople having found that it is one of their best days. Lord Avebury gives an example of the effect of Sunday closing on one man, as follows:

One of my correspondents writes to me that, being much opposed to Sunday trading, he determined to keep closed. In a short time he lost most of his little capital, and then he opened and made money. When he thought he had made enough he closed again, and now he writes me word that he is nearly ruined again and compelled once more to open, and he ends his letter, "I am a hatter."

We have heard people argue in favor of the open season on Sunday, on the theory that it is "the poor man's club," and that he has a right to go to it on his rest day if he wants to. But few people would argue that stores and places of business generally should be kept open on Sunday. This for the very good reason that the average American can find time enough to make purchases on week days. Besides, over here we believe the clerks are entitled to one day of rest in seven.

In England there is a law, against Sunday opening, but the penalty is ridiculously inadequate to stop the evil. A fine of just five shillings is provided for the offense, and the profits derived by the shopkeepers abundantly justify them in paying it rather than close their places. Either the English law will have to be amended for the purpose of prescribing a harder penalty, or public sentiment against open Sunday shops must be worked up to such an extent that the tradesmen will take the step voluntarily.

It appears that the story of the South Dakota man who hanged himself through remorse because he permitted an innocent man to die on the gallows for a crime he himself committed, was entirely untrue. Still, everybody will concede that if there had been such a man he should have hanged himself.

In view of recent disclosures it would not be surprising if it should develop that officers of the New York Life Insurance company have been giving away the money of the policy-holders for the purchase of blankets for the Hotentots.

Put your hands on your pocketbooks. A dispatch says that Mme. Humbert, the woman who swindled Paris bankers out of 12,000,000 francs, is coming to this country to live as soon as her prison sentence expires.

An unidentified man committed suicide in Washington the other day and it is rumored that he killed himself because he had no wife. And some of us will consider that a good and sufficient reason.

An armistice has been concluded between the Russian and Japanese field representatives. General Linkevitch will now breathe that long deferred sigh of relief.

John D. Rockefeller says he has no use for public libraries. No wonder. Most of them contain Miss Tarbell's "History of the Standard Oil company."

Mr. Hewlett is actually reported to be a candidate for the Republican majority nomination. Some men don't know when they're well off.

A Positive Statement.

(Washington Star.) "It is feared that Komura will refuse to treat with Wits," said the man who is interested in the war in Asia. "That sir," responded Colonel Stillwell of Kentucky, "would be an outrage, sir, which neither side may look on with indifference of opinion, but no gentleman, sir, will refuse to treat when his turn comes."

Different Bird.

(Chicago News.) "Oh, friend, well, dear, what do you think of your husband by this time?" "The Bird—Oh, he's a duck of a man. Girl friends—Indeed, I must have been mistaken. The Bird—Why, what do you mean?" "Oh, friend—I always believed him to be a goose."

In The Imperial Treasury.
Russia's Marvelous Jewels Which Few Foreigners See.

(London Tit-Bits.)

"Moscow is the heart of Russia and the Kremlin is the heart of Moscow," is an old Russian saying, and it is to the Kremlin we must go to see the truly oriental opulence of the Russian Imperial house. Few Englishmen have been privileged to gaze on the magnificent crown jewels of the Romanoffs, which are housed in the Imperial treasury adjoining the great palace of the Kremlin. The writer by special permission was recently allowed to examine the priceless treasures—jewels without number, wonderful specimens of the gemmists' art, of fabulous value, rubies, diamonds, sapphires, emeralds, clustered together in masses of most exquisite workmanship.

Let the incredulous smile, it may be stated at the outset that the Russian state is one of the greatest economic units on the face of the earth, that it draws an annual net profit of \$25,000,000 from its forests, mines and agricultural property; that it receives annually \$25,000,000 from its communities of ex-foreigners; that it has 24,000 miles of railway; that the czar is certainly one of the richest men living, having an official annual income of nearly \$1,000,000 sterling and a private annual income of from four to five times this amount.

On entering the Imperial treasury the duly accredited visitor is received by court officials in a large hall, and is escorted by a dignified and courteous, whose grace and versatility at once reveal Russia's cultured nobility. The first room contains all the titles of the crown, and the armor for men and horses, with explanatory notes and dates. Near by is the gorgeous baldachin under which the emperor walked at his coronation. It is constructed of ebony and mother-of-pearl, covered with velvet and cloth of gold, surmounted by plumes of ostrich feathers in three colors—black, white and red.

An immense room full of thrones, each representing a fortune! Single thrones, double thrones, and even triple thrones are to be seen. The double throne made for Ivan and Peter, with an opening behind, through which the young monarchs could be secretly advised by their sister Sophia. Here also is the throne of the czar, with 1,223 rubies, \$76 diamonds, and other precious stones; the throne of Boris, presented to him by the shah of Persia; the throne of the czar, with large pearls and turquoises; the magnificent ivory throne brought from Constantinople by Sophia on her marriage with Ivan the Terrible. In the room of the crown of Vladimir, and many others of imposing design and great historic associations.

The array of crowns is bewildering in number and brilliancy. Among the fifty-two titles of the crown are the Russian—czar of Kazan, of Astrakhan, of Poland, of Siberia, of Kherson; and the crowns of these once separate kingdoms now repose in the Imperial treasury.

The crown of the Crimea is a plain gold circlet—a modest violet among the diamonds. The crown of Vladimir Monomachus is of special interest, as that monarch married the daughter of our own King Harold, succeeding to the throne of England in 1066. It is of gold filigree work on sable, surmounted by a plain cross set with pearls, a topaz, a sapphire and a ruby adorn the dome, and the lower part is encrusted with pearls, rubies, and diamonds.

The crown of Peter the Great is adorned with 900 diamonds, surmounted by a diamond cross rising from the center of an immense uncut ruby, while that of the Empress Catherine II. is bedecked with no fewer than 2,536 diamonds and an enormous ruby, producing a rainbow of color dazzling in its brilliancy. The crown of Michael Romanoff, the founder of the present Imperial house, is surrounded by 190 precious stones and surmounted by a gigantic emerald. The coronet of the present emperor is remarkable chiefly for the quality of its jewels, being bedecked with 100 of the purest gem ever brought together in a single ornament, and is said to be unequalled in the world.

The crown of the present emperor is dome shaped like a patriarchal mitre. Its chief gem is an immense ruby supporting a cross of five very large diamonds, while its base is ablaze with precious stones. It is strange that at the coronation of Nicholas II the crown of Peter the Great was used, and when with great dignity and deliberation the czar placed the crown on his head it tilted slightly and appeared to lurch, an omen readily seized upon by augurs of evil.

The royal orb is decorated with diamonds, set in two bands, encircling it at right angles. On its upper surface is a large sapphire surrounded by a diamond cross, while to the orthodox Russian not the least precious of its materials is a piece of the true cross of Christ. The Imperial scepter has as its chief ornament the magnificent gem known as the Orloff diamond, one of the largest and most valuable in existence; and the jeweled collars of the order of St. Andrew, the great sword of state, the Imperial seal, and the insignias of innumerable orders blink their animation in vari-colored lights.

Probably the most curious of presenting bread and salt to the czar as a sign of submission and fealty is still a ceremonial function at each coronation. Triplets of Khiva, Bokhara, Samarkand, and faraway Yakutsk have offered their allegiance to recent czars on plates of pure gold, to which has sometimes been added, as a constituent part, a salt cellar of rare design. At least 1,000 of these plates with their accompanying salt cellars are arranged as plaques on the walls or hidden in recesses by priceless tapestry. Many of the plates are encased with the emperor's initials in gems.

The gold plate used at the Imperial banquets is truly regal. Its value is enormous owing to its abundance, the elegance of its design, its choice workmanship, and the quality of its material.

The bejeweled dresses of former empresses of Russia are carefully preserved, that of Catherine II being so long and heavy with gems that it needed two chamberlains to support its train. The wedding dress of the present empress is Imperial in texture and price, costing no less than \$40,000.

In another room are a huge goblet cut out of a single enormous amethyst, with a hunting scene chased over its surface, and coronation presents of fabulous value from the east and west, from emperors, kings, and princes, as well as from many municipalities and millionaires.

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PEACE-MAKING PECULIARITIES.

Points to Be Observed by the High Contracting Parties.

(London Tit-Bits.)

Just as in the war between Russia and Japan we have lately witnessed one of the most terrible conflicts ever recorded in history, so, in the peace that is said to be in the making, there will be a memorable and epoch-making settlement. Some people seem to imagine that when the representatives of the belligerent nations come together as "high contracting parties" they are called to a treaty of peace, they can make what terms they like as between themselves, but this is not entirely the case. Here, as in the course of the war, they have to pay respect to the canons and traditions of international law.

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